AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A process for ~~the~~ a distillation of ~~ionic liquids~~an ionic liquid, which comprises the following steps:

setting a pressure which is not higher than ambient pressure, and

heating to a temperature from 60°C to 350°C, wherein cations, anions and uncharged molecules are present in equilibrium in the ionic liquid.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the cations, anions and uncharged molecules are formed by protonation or alkylation of the anions by the cations.

4. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the pressure is less than 200 mbar.

5. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the pressure is less than 50 mbar.

6. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the pressure is less than 5 mbar.

7. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the temperature is from 100°C to 350°C.

8. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the temperature is from 150 to 350°C.

9. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein at least two uncharged molecules are formed in the process, and the at least two of the uncharged molecules are distilled off.

10. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 9, wherein the at least two of the uncharged molecules which have been distilled off are recombined again to form ~~an~~ a distilled ionic liquid.

11. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 9, wherein one of the two uncharged molecules which have been distilled off is used to prepare ~~an~~ a distilled ionic liquid.

12. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1, used for ~~the~~ a purification of the ionic ~~liquids~~liquid.

13. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1, used for ~~the~~ a recirculation of the ionic ~~liquids~~liquid.

14. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 3, wherein the pressure is less than 50 mbar.

15. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 3, wherein the more volatile of the uncharged molecules ~~that~~ is distilled off ~~is used~~ to prepare ~~an~~ a distilled ionic liquid.

16. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the uncharged molecules are formed by protonation or alkylation of the anions by the cations.

17. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 16, wherein the more volatile molecule of the uncharged molecules is distilled off and is used to prepare ~~an~~ a distilled ionic liquid.

18. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 17, wherein the pressure is less than 50 mbar and the temperature is from 100°C to 350°C.

19. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the uncharged molecules are formed in the process and at least the more volatile of the uncharged molecules are distilled off.